Dear Jim, 12/14/74

This further response to your 10/4 may be interrupted by someone who is now a half-hour late. He is a stranger who is flying 1000 miles and doesn't know the roads hereabouts, so he may have erred in following the simple directions.

We've almost completed the first half of a concrete project 5 years in getting started. The rich people who built this house chiselled on everyone so the contractors paid them back in various ways costly to us. One example is inn not compacting backfilling. We have a partly-disabled mason living without paying any rent at our Hyattstown place. He has been supposed to do the concrete work for lo these 5 years. He finally corrected the settling of the steps we use most and adding one where we needed it this weekend. He is to come tonight and remove the forms and rub it down with concrete. Next he is supposed to do the same the the "front" steps we rarely use, settled 4" and dangerous for Lil who has a trick knee. Then a walk we do use that is settled on the house side only. The difference is that I'Ve paid enormously more than you and don't have to do any of the work.

Not that it would not have been more pleasant than what you've probably gathered enough of that I have been doing that is neither pleasant in the doing, successful as that has been, nor in the new jeopardy to it by the egocentric nut Bud.

When he was here yeasterday, for what reason I don't know, he made some reference to a Nixon tape of May 15. I didn't ask. Somehow I just assumed that he meant 1972. If he meant 1973 and knew what he was talking about, then it can be relevant to the hold exGL holds on newGL.

With Bud observations like this can range from the precisely correct to the wildest of dreams, depending on his source(s) and the fidelity of repetition.

Exprincesspat continues silent. STM(E) has a theory that all had not been well in that dept for years. She sure took a lot, then!

Your analysis Rock probably correct. Silence only from that quarter. No new word on book and I'm too busy to make any effort with it or seekm to have deliveries made or even learn if manufactured. I never tackled the new math and I'm not about to try to learn of sympathize with this new ethics.

Isn't another aspect of this same attitude the key to the KFPA situation?

Must mean a loss for you, though.

Fall is beginning here, the pine needles dropping the leaves turning (poplars partly gone from drought) and the last cutting of the grass not completed. Hope to find time tomorrow, the first part of which I'll have to spend in D.C., on Wednesday after completing packing for Memphis trip, because in more than two weeks it will be too late. Couldn't today because of drizzle.

I haven't even been able to prepare the pool for winter. Been too cool to use for more than a month.

While I haven't had time to follow events for several weeks, I have the feeling that the Establishment is uneasy with Ford and fearsome of what he will and will not do. Or, bad times ahead.

Hear the current Harper's is entirely on WG. Haven't seen. Bud said worth getting.

Reasoning that began to take form in my enclosed confidential 10/5 correct in all aspects I can recall. New name, not Haile or Haynes, in petition for stay to Supreme Court. Only one of a number of signs. But this need not mean that I have succeeded in wasting them. However, I do note that it followed receipt by the one who is acting as State AG of my itemized bill of complaint to the judge. (They haven't had a State AG for 5 months!) Makes Bud insanity harder to take and more fraught with dangers. Hated to have to let Lesar know when his inexperience and his awareness of it is already burdensome enough to Him. We'll just have to sweat and see. Best,